

Message Text

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ORIGIN OC-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 CCO-00 OCL-00 L-03 (ADP) R

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P R 212335Z AUG 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 166358

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ACOM, KU

SUBJECT: RADIO RECIPROCITY - KUWAIT

FOR RCO BEIRUT, FOR ATO ATHENS

REF: KUWAIT 2975

1. IN VIEWING WHOLE QUESTION RADIO RECIPROCITY IT IS IM-
PORTANT TO REMEMBER WE ARE DOING ALL WE CAN TO ASSIST EM-
BASSY OF KUWAIT ESTABLISH EFFECTIVE RADIO STATION WHICH CON-
FORMS TO EXISTING US LAW AND REGULATIONS. CONDITIONS OF
OPERATION ARE THE SAME FOR ALL EMBASSY STATIONS IN WASHING-
TON AND NO EXCEPTIONS ARE MADE. THIS IS NECESSARY SINCE
DAY-TO-DAY RADIO OPERATIONS IN THE WASHINGTON AREA, AS WELL
AS ALONG THE EAST COAST ARE EXTREMELY ACTIVE AND CONGESTED,
WHICH RESULTS IN FREQUENCY PROBLEMS, AND SERIOUS INTER-
FERENCE CONDITIONS. TO DISREGARD EXISTING LAWS WOULD ONLY
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ADD TO PROBLEM. DEPARTMENT'S INTEREST IS TO INSURE THAT

ALL MISSIONS WHO QUALIFY HAVE EFFECTIVE DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES.

2. SINCE DISPATCH DEPARTMENT'S NOTE, DATED JULY 25, WE HAVE HAD NO CALLS OR QUERY FROM KUWAIT EMBASSY TO INDICATE THEY HAVE A PROBLEM WITH TECHNICAL CONDITIONS DESCRIBED THEREIN. IF THESE BASIC CONSIDERATIONS ARE MET - THERE IS NO REASON WHY THEY COULD NOT ACTIVATE THEIR RADIO STATION -

REGARDLESS HOW ELABORATE OR ADVANCED THE SYSTEM IS. POWER LIMITATION 1 KW MAY POSE PROBLEM FOR KUWAIT EMBASSY. THEY MAY NEED TO USE RELAY POINT - SUCH AS LONDON IN ORDER REACH KUWAIT. DIRECT WASHINGTON - KUWAIT PATH MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE. THIS WAS EXPLAINED TO EMBASSY OFFICIAL JULY 19 MEETING. THIS CONNECTION EMBASSY RADIO STATION IN KUWAIT BEING CONVERTED FROM HF RADIO TO SATELLITE OPERATIONS, WILL STILL COMPLY WITH EXISTING CONDITIONS OF OPERATION. POWER WILL NOT EXCEED 1 KW AND MODE OPERATION STILL TELETYPE. WE ARE MERELY CONVERTING TRANSMISSION MEDIA FROM HF RADIO TO SATELLITE. ALL OTHER CONDITIONS REMAIN THE SAME.

3. YOU MAY WISH INFORM FOREIGN MINISTRY WE OPERATING IN KUWAIT UNDER SAME CONSIDERATIONS THEIR EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON EXPECTED TO OPERATE UNDER. ONLY DIFFERENCE IS WE HAVE BEEN OPERATING FOR SOME TIME AND KUWAIT EMBASSY REQUEST STILL BEING PROCESSED. INDICATIONS ARE WE EXPECT FINAL APPROVAL FOR AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPAL WITHIN NEXT TWO WEEKS AT WHICH TIME NOTE WILL BE DISPATCHED TO THE KUWAIT EMBASSY.

4. DEPARTMENT REPEATS OFFER OF ASSISTANCE KUWAIT EMBASSY IF NEEDED.

5. FOLLOWING COMMENTS ARE MADE POINTS RAISED REFTEL.
A. (PARA 2) DEPARTMENT NOT AWARE OF ANY US RESTRICTIONS THAT PRECLUDE EMBASSY OF KUWAIT FROM IMPORTING FOR THEIR OWN USE SIMILAR EQUIPMENT. MOST LIKELY IMPORTATION NOT NECESSARY SINCE THEY COULD PURCHASE HERE IN OPEN MARKET ANY TYPE COMMUNICATIONS GEAR NEEDED.

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- B. (PARA 3) IF MINISTRY AWARE OF KUWAIT EMBASSY PROBLEM HERE WE WOULD LIKE TO BE ADVISED SO WE CAN HELP IF POSSIBLE.
- C. (PARA 5) ALL EMBASSY RADIO TRANSMITTERS IN WASHINGTON OPERATE UNDER IDENTICAL SET OF RULES. NO EXCEPTIONS.
- D. (PARA 7) ARRANGEMENTS BEING MADE TO SCHEDULE STATE SUPPORT FLIGHT TO ARRIVE KUWAIT ON DAYS OTHER THAN

THURSDAYS OR FRIDAYS. DETAILED LIST OF MATERIAL BEING BROUGHT IN, UNSEALED, WILL BE FURNISHED THE EMBASSY AS REQUESTED. (FOR ATO ATHENS - REQUEST INSURE THAT EMBASSY KUWAIT IS NOTIFIED ONE WEEK IN ADVANCE OF ARRIVAL OF PERSONNEL WITH EXCESS "DIPLOMATIC BAGGAGE".)

6. BELIEVE POST SHOULD ARRANGE MEETING SOONEST WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL AND EXPLAIN DETAIL US LAW - HOW IT

WORKS AND ALSO CURRENT STATUS THEIR REQUEST FOR APPROVAL RADIO STATION HERE.

7. BEGIN FYI WE WONDER IF FOREIGN MINISTRY'S HEIGHTENED CONCERN OVER RADIO/RECIPROCITY ISSUE MIGHT HAVE BEEN STIMULATED BY SHAYKH SALEM FOLLOWING HIS RECENT ARRIVAL IN KUWAIT FROM VACATION IN EUROPE. SALEM DEPARTED WASHINGTON PRIOR TO DISPATCH OF OUR JULY 25 NOTE, AND HE MAY NOT HAVE BEEN COMPLETELY UP-TO-DATE ON PROGRESS WE HAVE MADE SINCE HIS DEPARTURE. END FYI. ROGERS

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